



Whitmore Lake

ELEMENTARY EXPRESS

— 1077 Barker Rd. Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 —

CALENDAR

Monday, December 18th-Friday, December 22nd *Spirit Days as stated below!*

- *Winter break begins Friday, December 22nd at 11:15 AM for grades 5 & 6 and 12:15 PM for grades K-4. School returns in the new year on Monday, January 8, 2018!***

Please see communications from your child's teacher for possible classroom activities occurring the days before break.

GREETINGS, FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What a fantastic **North Pole Night**! Special thanks to our PTO for leading this wonderful family night event! Lindsay Collins and Ramona Meadows took the lead this year working many hours to create a well planned event with assistance from staff (from the elementary school and Early Childcare Center), families, students and the community. It was nice to see many of our high school and elementary school students volunteering! We also had a cookie decorating station created by the womans group at our nearby Wesley United Methodist Church. It was truly a full partnership and family engagement event! Thank you for attending and we hope to see you at our next event!



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At our monthly **PBIS Celebration** this week the students in kindergarten through 4th grades moved to *Kid Zumba*! It was a lot of fun and rather exhausting! See our WLPS app or facebook for the video! Kid Zumba classes will start after school at the elementary school in January. For more information for this interactive class go to WLPS.net and register through community recreation.

Do you like to have fun in the snow and build **snow people**? Email me a picture Sue.Wanamaker@wlps.net or send it in with your child so we can add it to our snow scene! People included in the pictures welcomed! Can't wait to see the pictures!

If you are interested in joining our WLES **playground committee** please let your child's teacher know. We need to have community involvement for many of the grants we will be writing. The committee will be meeting in early January to further develop a plan of action.

On behalf of all the WLES staff, we wish you Happy Holidays and health and wellness as we end 2017 and ring in the 2018 new year!

PTO NEWS

PTO will be selling **Candy Grams for \$1.00 each** to the 5th & 6th graders during lunch on **Tuesday, December 19th**. Our **next meeting** will take place on Tuesday, January 16th at 5:15 in the WLES library. Free childcare and light refreshments will be provided.

BOOK BINGO

GOT BOOKS? WLES is collecting gently used and new books for the 3rd Annual Book Bingo event. Book donations may be placed in the green bin across from the media center or dropped off in room A-10. Monetary donations for the purchase of new books are also accepted. Book Bingo is scheduled for **June 2018**. Contact Mrs. Roy-Borland with any questions: heidi.roy-borland@wlps.net or [734-449-2051 x1310](tel:734-449-2051)



COLD WEATHER SAFETY 2017

Children are more vulnerable than adults to the effects of cold weather. Share these tips with Head Start parents and staff to keep children safe, healthy, and warm this winter.

Sleeping Safely in Any Season

- Keep babies' cribs free of stuffed animals and extra blankets. A firm mattress covered with a tight-fitting crib sheet is all that an infant needs to sleep safely.
- If you are worried about keeping babies warm, dress them in a wearable blanket, also known as a sleep sack.

Staying Safe Indoors and in Vehicles

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, including furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves, and portable space heaters.
- Set up a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Vent all fuel-burning equipment to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.
- Install and maintain CO alarms. Keep alarms at least 15 feet away from fuel-burning appliances.
- If you need to warm up your vehicle, remove it from the garage as soon as you start it to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. Don't leave a vehicle running inside a garage.
- If vehicles are parked outside, check to make sure the tailpipe is not blocked with snow, which can also cause problems with CO.

Infection Control

- Cold weather does not cause colds or flu. However, viruses that cause a cold and the flu are more common in the winter when children spend more time indoors.
- Keeping everyone's hands clean is one of the most important ways to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others. Wash hands with soap and clean running water, and rub them together for at least 20 seconds.
- Teach children to cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve or elbow, not their hands. Adults should model this behavior.
- Review program policies on hand washing; cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting; and excluding children and caregivers who are sick.
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend that all children 6 months and older receive the seasonal flu vaccine every year. All early care and education program staff should also get vaccinated for the flu.



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SCHOOL HOURS

Office Hours 7:15 AM – 4:15 PM

5th and 6th Grades 7:50 AM - 2:35 PM

Kindergarten – 4th Grades 8:50 AM – 3:35 PM

5th and 6th Grade students who eat breakfast at school may arrive and enter the building at 7:30 AM

5th and 6th Grade students that walk to school should arrive no earlier than 7:40 AM and no later than 7:50 AM.

Kindergarten-4th Grade students who eat breakfast at school may arrive and enter the building at at 8:20 AM all other students can enter the building at 8:40 AM.

Kindergarten – 4th Grade students that walk to school should arrive no earlier than 8:40 AM and no later than 8:50 AM *See above for arrival and building entry if eating breakfast.*